



## Upton Westlea Primary School Parents' Newsletter November 2023



### Message from Mrs Carruthers:

A very warm welcome to the third newsletter of the new academic year for the parents and families of Upton Westlea Primary School.

Huge Congratulations to our Attendance winners for Autumn 1:

Ella (Y3), Grace (Y2) and Harry (Y1)

Thank you to all those parents who attended our first Parents Evenings of this academic year. I'm sure you are all pleased with how well your child(ren) have settled, I know the staff are particularly our new Nursery and Reception children.

Huge thanks to those parents who completed the questionnaires, I will hopefully share these results with you in the next parent newsletter.

Don't forget to read all your texts, e-mails, dojo messages etc as December is an exceptionally busy month with plays, parties, panto trips etc and we don't want you to miss out on anything ☺

**DON'T FORGET THE XMAS FAIR ON FRIDAY 1<sup>ST</sup> DECEMBER @ 2.30p.m. – 4.00p.m.**

### School News:

The whole school recognised 'Anti-Bullying' week between the 13<sup>th</sup> – 17<sup>th</sup> November. The Behaviour Champions started the week with a superb assembly and 'Odd Socks' Day and then every class completed activities around the theme – 'Make a Noise About Bullying'.

Movie Night organised by the School Council was very popular with nearly 90 children enjoying their drink and popcorn whilst watching 'Home Alone'. The School Council raised over £300 which is a terrific achievement. All money raised is going towards our partnership work with The Storyhouse, Chester.

### Class News:

**Nursery:** In Blossom Class we did Nursery Rhyme week making walls for Humpty Dumpty, making him fall and seeing if we could put him together again. We tried sellotape, spoons and masking tape but couldn't put him together again either. We also made sheep for Baa Baa Black Sheep using cotton wool balls. Nursery families made boats at home for us to race across the water tray in Nursery – we've had so much fun ☺

**Reception:** We have been learning our phonics every day. Then we used our phonics to try and write Winnie the Witch's spell and label the animals on Room on the Broom. We have looked at non-fiction books and read about Night Animals. In maths we are investigating Number Block 4 and thinking about shapes and their properties.

**Year 1:** Willow Class have been enjoying learning about toys though time. We started by sharing our favourite toys and then explored the artefacts from the museum. We played and look at the materials of the Victorian Toys and how it was different to toys from the 20th century. We have also had a very mischievous visitor

Nibbles the book monster visit our class. The children have really enjoyed writing all about what mayhem he has been causing.

**Year 2:** Ash Class have had a very busy November! It began with a residential trip to Delamere Outdoor Education Centre! The children had an amazing time! We went on a habitat walk and found some badger sets, we went walking in the stream, played lots of team-building games, took part in an orienteering activity, den building, an indoor campfire over the iPad fire (due to the rain!) and so much more! The children were a pleasure to take, especially as they were asking to get in their PJs since we arrived! Those children who remained at school worked well with Mrs Hunt and Mrs Parker and took part in lots of firework and owl related art and crafts work.

In class, Year 2 have continued to work really hard on their new learning! They have thoroughly enjoyed learning about Guy Fawkes and the Gunpowder plot in History and the Owl Who Was Afraid of the Dark in English! We had a visit from John the Owl Man who brought with him two barn owls, a European Eagle owl and... Chrissy the Skunk! The children got to stroke all the animals and ask ALL of their questions! We also had a visit from Healthbox and took part in a Don't Skip Breakfast workshop! We talked about the food groups, how to keep our bodies healthy and then made a crunchy monkey- yum!  
A very busy month for year 2.. and soon it will be our Christmas Play!

**Year 3:** Hazel Class have been getting into the wintery spirit this month through writing about our book, Winter's Child, and embracing all weathers in Forest School. We have also completed our addition and subtraction column methods and have now moved on to multiplication of the 3x, 4x and 8x tables.

**Year 4:** This month, Birch class have enjoyed making lanterns and getting ready to take part in Chester Lantern Parade on the 30<sup>th</sup> November.

**Year 5:** This half term has been very busy for our year 5's. We have continued to progress in English looking at direct speech and how it is punctuated correctly. We have then used our text, 'The lost happy endings', to create some fantastic conversations between our characters. In maths, we have continued our understanding of multiplication and have begun multiplying 4 digit numbers by 1 digit numbers! Finally, the children seem very keen to add to their history knowledge and have been giving some fantastic contributions in Anglo-Saxon discussions. Keep up the hard work year 5!

**Year 6:** Oak Class are really enjoying learning all about endangered animals as part of their English and geography work. We have become so obsessed that we have now adopted a jaguar through the World Wildlife Fund and we can't wait to receive our welcome pack!

**Eden:** Another fun filled month with our weekly forest school and horse riding sessions. A highlight this month for the children was learning about Diwali and making some beautiful rangoli designs and Diya lamps. 4 children represented Upton Westlea at the SEN Sports Festival and had lots of fun learning new sports and being part of a team.

### Headteacher Awards this month have been awarded to...

Reuben (Y5), Zoe (Y5), Peter (Y3), James (Y4), Yunus (Y4), Lottie-Leigh (Y1),

### Dates for December:

Date	Class	Event
1 <sup>st</sup> December	Whole School	Christmas Fair 2.30p.m. – 4.00p.m.
6 <sup>th</sup> December	Whole School	Christmas Dinner
7 <sup>th</sup> December	Ash (Y2), Willow (Y1)	KS1 Christmas Performance to Parents 9.30a.m. and 6.00p.m.

7 <sup>th</sup> December	Eden	Eden Christmas Performance to Parents 1.30p.m.
12 <sup>th</sup> December	Apple (Reception)	Reception Performance to Parents 9.30a.m. and 2.00p.m.
13 <sup>th</sup> December	Blossom (Nursery)	Nursery Christmas Sing Along 10.30a.m.
13 <sup>th</sup> December p.m.	Reception, KS1, KS2	Christmas Parties
13 <sup>th</sup> December	Hazel (Y3), Birch (Y4), Holly (Y5), Oak (Y6)	Carols by Candlelight 6.00p.m. (Weather dependent)
14 <sup>th</sup> December	Blossom (Nursery)	Christmas Party
14 <sup>th</sup> December	Reception, KS1, KS2	Pantomime @ The Storyhouse
15 <sup>th</sup> December	Whole School	School finishes at 1.00p.m.